ADDENDUM TO THE MONOGRAPH OF AUSTRALIAN SPONGES.

By R. von Lendenfeld, Ph.D.

In the Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Ser. 5, Vol. 7, No. 41, May 1881, p. 373-374 H. J. Carter describes a Sponge from Bass' Straits, which should be placed in the Myxospongiae, and which has been omitted by use.

The specimens at the disposal of Carter were dry, and so as no reference is made to the structure of the sponge it will remain doubtful to which genus it should be referred, Oscarella or Halisarca (in my sense.) I place it provisionally in the former. With this name it should be added to my previously mentioned Australian species of Oscarellidæ,

OSCARELLA BASSANGUSTIORUM. Von Lendenfeld.

Halisarca Bassangustiorum. Carter (l.c.)

I will give Carter's own description in full as the species is a very doubtful one. (l.c.)

Among the "dredgings" from Bass' Straits are two more or less thin, light, corrugated, even-margined, sub-circular specimens, about an inch in diameter each, one of which is dark purple, almost black, and the other brown in colour. Both are charged with globular bodies like cells, about 31-6,000ths inch in diameter; but while these are indistinct in one of them, they are well-defined, spheroidal and capsular in the other. How far these specimens may have been brought to this state by exposure in the waves and on a hot dry beach I cannot say; but to expect Halisarca after such exposure to present any of its original features is out of the question. All therefore, that I can add is that the "brown" specimen in a smaller state appears again attached to Dictyocylindrus reticulata (to be described hereafter) from the same locality and charged with the same kind of spherical capsular bodies (?ova) where it so far manifests all the appearance of Halisarca, that I can hardly doubt that both are dried specimens of one and the same, for which I propose the name above given. Neither becomes gelatinous when soaked in water, although when dry the brown specimen presents here and there the appearance of dried glue, which the dark specimen does not. I admit that this description is not satisfactory; but under the circumstances it cannot be otherwise; at the same time it is desirable that it should be recorded to induce future observation.

Loc., Bass' Straits.

TEICHONELLA PROLIFERA. Carter.

In Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Ser. 5, Vol. 15, Nr. 89, p. 119, foot note. Carter gives a new locality for this sponge, namely, Port Phillip,

TEICHONELLA LABYRINTHICA. Carter.

In Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Ser. 5, Vol. 15, Nr. 86, p. 119-120. Carter describes the ciliated chambers of this species, and gives a new locality for it, namely, Port Phillip.

The description of the canal system is very remarkable. The chambers are cylindrical as in the Syconidæ, and there is one large terminal inhalent pore, and one large exhalent pore on the other end, likewise terminal. In no other sponge has it hitherto been observed that the inhalent pore or pores was as large or anything approaching the size of the exhalent pore, the Chamber Osculum. This statement therefore must be received with caution. At the same time Carter states that there are numerous small pores in the wall of the cylindrical chamber. These are homologous to the ordinary inhalent pores in the ciliated chambers of other sponges.

I consider it as highly probable that these are actually the inhalents, that inhalent canals exist between the cylindrical chambers, and that there is no large vent at one end, or if there is it is likewise an exhalent pore.

LEUCANDRA CATAPHRACTA. Haeckel.

An exceptionally slender specimen, measuring only 2 mm. in diameter, has been obtained from Port Stephens (Australian Museum), and this place has to be recorded as new locality for the species.